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Commissioners of School and University Lands reports

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Annual report of the Commissioners of School and University Lands of the State of Wisconsin, <1853>, 1855-<1856>

Report, 1854

Annual report ... 1857-1858, 1860-<1861>, <1868>

LLMC 01-228t

STATE OF WISCONSIN;

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE SCHOOL AND UNIVERSITY LANDS,

MADISON, December 31, 1856.

To His Excellency Coles Bashford,
Governor of the State of Wisconsin:

SIR,—In conformity with our duty as Commissioners of the School and University Lands, we herewith send to your Excellency our Annual Report, in order that the same may be communicated to the Legislature.

With great respect,
Your obedient Servants,

D. W. JONES, *Secretary of State,*
CHARLES KUEHN, *State Treasurer,*
WM. R. SMITH, *Attorney General.*

ANNUAL REPORT.

STATE OF WISCONSIN;

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE SCHOOL AND UNIVERSITY LANDS,

MADISON, December 31, 1856.

To the Legislature of the State of Wisconsin:

The Commissioners for the Sale of School and University Lands, and having in charge the funds arising from the same, respectfully submit this, their Report, for the year ending December 31, A. D. 1856.

The capital of the School Fund on the 31st December, 1855, was	$1,897,269 30
On the 31st Decem., 1856, the capital of the said Fund was $2,047,903 74, showing an increase of	150,634 44
The capital of the University Fund on the 31st December, 1855, was	181,876 10
At the present date the capital of this Fund is $310,887 35, showing an increase of	129,011 25

The Report of the Secretary of State will exhibit in detail, a statement of the receipts and disbursements of these funds for the year ending December 31, 1856, together with the several amounts now in the treasury belonging to such funds and subject to loans.

The tabular statements which accompany this Report will show the amount of lands sold in the several counties during the year 1856, the amount they sold for, the amount of principal purchase money paid, the amount of interest paid, and other statistics necessary to be known by the Legislature and the public.

In conformity with their duties, the Commissioners, after having given proper notice of sales in the several counties of Dunn, Pierce, St. Croix, Chippewa, Buffalo and Trempeleau, proceeded to each of these counties in the month of November, and opened and held the sales until all the School and University Lands, at that time subject to sale, were disposed of, either to pre-emptors or to purchasers, after a fair competition in the biddings, at public auction.

The commissioners have the satisfaction of reporting, that independent of the pre-emption rights in the above counties, a very great portion of the lands were sold to citizens of the counties, farmers and others, for the purpose of immediate occupancy; and, with a few exceptions, the lands were sold at prices very far above the valuation made of them by the appraisers. In many instances, school lands appraised at one dollar and twenty-five cents, and two dollars per acre, brought by fair competition at public sale, from ten to twelve dollars per acre.

In December, the Commissioners, pursuant to public notice, held a very extensive sale at the seat of Government, of Forfeited School and University Lands, and also Forfeited Mortgaged Lands. These sales caused the assemblage of a great number of purchasers, and much competition was exhibited in the bidding, which is, perhaps, a proof that sales at the capitol will always draw the greater number of purchasers, and ensure the best competition in the biddings.

SCHOOL FUND LOANS.

Adams County.

1856.	Names.	Loan.	Interest.
Feb'y. 13	H. B. Converse	$500 00	$30 70
Feb'y. 13	E. B. Cotton	375 00	23 03
Feb'y. 16	Horace Croswell	300 00	18 25
March 6	Walter D. Truax	200 00	11 46
March 13	W. D. Niles	300 00	16 79
March 13	Stillman Niles	300 00	16 79
March 14	Nancy B. Kingsbury	200 00	11 15
March 18	W. B. Gage	300 00	16 50
Octob'r 4	Elizabeth Whitney	500 00	8 42
		$2,975 00	$153 09

Bad Ax County.

Jan'y. 22	Esther Austin	$400 00	$26 36
Decem. 5	A. Stiles	200 00	1 00
		$600 00	$27 36

Brown County.

March 25	Edward Timlin	$200 00	$10 77

Calumet County.

Feb'y. 15	E. Gueck	$200 00	$12 21
Feb'y. 29	Richard Mangan	250 00	14 58
July 28	F. P. Oesau	200 00	5 95
		$650 00	$32 74

Clark County.

April 3	Wm. J. Gibson	$500 00	$25 92

Crawford County.

1856.	Names.	Loan.	Interest.
March 5	Ira P. Brunson	$400 00	$23 00

Columbia County.

Jan'y 11	L. S. Dickson	$500 00	$33 95
do 11	Ebenezer Ayres	500 00	33 90
do 18	John Hagan	350 00	23 27
do 18	Andrew Sweeney	350 00	23 27
do 31	P. O'Meara	250 00	16 04
do 31	Richard Devine	250 00	16 04
Feb'y. 2	O. D. Coleman	500 00	31 89
do 5	Andrew Dunn	500 00	31 60
do 12	George D. Mead	300 00	18 48
do 12	Thomas Laffan	500 00	30 80
do 21	M. T. Draper	300 00	17 96
March 13	Moses M. Davis	300 00	16 79
do 24	Thomas Phillips	300 00	16 15
June 21	L. R. Lord	300 00	11 02
Aug't 22	E. G. Chase	300 00	7 46
Sep't. 2	Alex. McDonald	300 00	6 86
Dec. 15	J. McKinnon & Colin McKinnon	400 00	1 23
		$6,200 00	$336 71

Dane County.

Jan'y 9	A. B. Smith	$500 00	$34 04
Jan'y 9	Wm. A. Barstow	500 00	34 09
Jan'y 9	Mahlon Husbrook	500 00	30 51
Jan'y 11	George Anderson	400 00	27 13
Jan'y 15	Thos. and Jer'h Murphy	400 00	26 82
Jan'y 15	A. J. Damp	500 00	33 52
Jan'y 16	F. T Zettler	500 00	33 42
Jan'y 21	Joseph Keyes	350 00	23 13
Jan'y 24	Jonathan S. Ames	300 00	19 65
Jan'y 29	James Traverse	300 00	19 37
Jan'y 29	Thos. Davis	200 00	12 91
Feb'y 5	John Collins	100 00	6 32
Feb'y 20	Jonathan Davis	300 00	18 02
Feb'y 20	Patrick Doyle	500 00	30 03
Feb'y 29	Elijah Isham	500 00	35 00
March 5	D. K. Tenney	250 00	14 38
March 11	D. R. Gilman	500 00	28 17

Dane County—continued.

1856.	Names.	Loan.	Interest.
March 15	W. H. Ripley	$500 00	$27 78
March 17	Martin Mead	200 00	11 04
March 18	Michael Byrne	200 00	11 00
March 25	Caspar Meyer	300 00	16 15
March 25	E. Cline	250 00	13 42
April 28	Orson Cook	300 00	14 12
May 12	Charity Bird	500 00	22 15
May 21	John A. Byrne	500 00	21 28
June 16	Ann Briun	300 00	11 31
Dec'r. 9	Chas. Huggins	500 00	2 11
Dec'r. 11	H. J. Hill	400 00	1 53
Dec'r. 13	S. D. Carpenter	500 00	1 73
Dec'r. 17	Wm. Dunlap	500 00	1 44
Dec'r. 16	Dennis Fitsgibbon	500 00	1 34
Dec'r. 17	Dennis Quirk	200 00	54
Dec'r. 27	Hubert Lambert	240 00	18
Dec'r. 27	Lucy A. Lewis	250 00	19
Dec'r. 23	John Willans	500 00	77
Dec'r. 24	Lewis H. Bovee	500 00	67
Dec'r. 30	Philetus S. Nott	200 00	04
Dec'r. 30	Royal A. Pierce	500 00	10
		14,440 00	$589 40

Dodge County.

Feb'y 15	Thomas Hoefer	$500 00	$30 51
Feb'y 29	Daniel Cary	150 00	8 75
Feb'y 29	Patrick Fleming	150 00	8 75
Feb'y 29	William Grange	200 00	11 67
March 13	H. D. Hatch	400 00	22 38
March 14	Fred McLaughlin	300 00	16 73
March 19	James H. Wells	300 00	16 44
March 28	Mary Tobin	200 00	10 62
June 14	E. Bordridge	400 00	15 96
Dec'r. 18	Edward Elwell	200 00	50
Dec'r. 20	John Paul Stechebach	500 00	1 05
Dec'r. 20	Godfried Kiese	500 00	1 05
Dec'r. 22	Fred H. Kribbs	500 00	38
		$4,300 00	$144 79

Dunn County.

1856.	Names.	Loan.	Interest.
April 19	John D. Harris	$300 00	$14 63

Fond du Lac County.

	Augustus Ebert	$500 00	
	R. Ebert	500 00	
March 7	B. S. Weil	500 00	$29 69
March 15	Jerome B. Topliff	500 00	27 78
May 2	Geo. Markart	300 00	13 92
June 21	M. H. Flint	150 00	5 51
Dec. 11	Hiram Allen	500 00	1 92
Dec. 11	D. W. Parker	500 00	1 92
		$3,450 00	$80 74

Grant County.

March 3	Josiah Drake	$200 00	$11 57
March 11	A. S. Bennett	300 00	16 90
March 14	H. Robbins	500 00	27 88
March 14	Jno. J. Wallace	250 00	13 95
May 2	Thomas Anderson	250 00	11 60
May 21	Henry Austin	300 00	12 83
June 21	J. T. Mills	300 00	11 02
October 1	Samuel Mitchell	500 00	8 75
		$2,600 00	$114 50

Green County.

March 5	John Porter	$200 00	$11 50
March 8	Lawrence Shively	250 00	14 23
		$450 00	$25 73

Iowa County.

Jan'y. 17	Amasa Cobb	$500 00	$33 37
Feb'y 5	Francis Sanford	400 00	25 25
Feb'y 19	E. R Otis	500 00	30 13
Feb'y 13	Wm. T. Henry	500 00	29 75
March 6	Jno. J. Ross	500 00	28 65
March 15	S. F. Steele	300 00	16 67

Iowa County—continued.

1856.	Names.	Loan.	Interest.
March 21	John Bracken	$450 00	$24 49
March 22	Isaac De Witt	300 00	16 27
March 26	Barret Williams	300 00	16 10
April 26	E. C. Stephens	400 00	18 98
May 21	Elenor F. Bailey	500 00	21 38
June 4	Ephraim Knowlton	500 00	19 99
June 14	Methodist Episcopal Church	500 00	19 99
July 1	David Winter	300 00	10 50
July 11	Hiram Grunow	500 00	16 40
July 11	Julius C. Grunow	500 00	16 40
Aug. 15	Trinity Church	500 00	13 11
Dec. 8	A. W. Floyd	300 00	1 32
Dec. 20	Stephen H Wilson	500 00	1 05
Dec. 20	Andrew Gulickson	250 00	53
		$8,500 00	$360 33

Jefferson County.

Feb. 28, 1855.	W. H. Besley *	$500 00	$64 17
Janu'ry 8	Sarah Gillman	500 00	34 19
Jan. 11	George Foster	500 00	33 90
Feb'y. 12	John Heine	500 00	30 80
March 6	Adam Smith	300 00	17 19
March 11	John Bartlett	220 00	12 39
March 18	A. H. Van Norstrand	500 00	27 50
March 28	Sam. T. Clothier	500 00	26 54
April 19	Wm. W. Woodman	220 00	10 73
April 21	Ira W. Bird	200 00	9 68
June 9	John Williams	500 00	19 51
Dec. 18	Peter Lason	300 00	75
June 23	Charles Denninger	400 00	14 54
----------	Winslow Blake	500 00	----------
		5,640 00	$301 89

Kenosha County.

Feb'y. 29	Josiah Bond	$500 00	$29 17
March 6	John M. Leland	500 00	28 65
		$1,000 00	$57 82

* Made by late board, and not before reported.

La Crosse County.

1856.	Names	Loan.	Interest.
March 11	Evan Batcheldor	$500 00	$28 17
May 28	Moses Clark	300 00	12 42
Sept. 20	Thomas B. Stoddard	250 00	4 86
		$1,050 00	$45 45

La Fayette County.

Jan'y. 21	Samuel Miles	$350 00	$23 20
Jan'y. 29	E. C. Budlong	400 00	25 82
Jan'y. 31	Wm. Elgar	500 00	32 08
Jan'y. 31	John B. Cutting	500 00	32 08
Feb'y. 5	Thomas S. Allen	300 00	18 88
Feb'y. 15	Jesse B. Evans	400 00	24 40
Feb'y. 15	G W. Farnham	300 00	18 31
Feb'y. 19	F. & L. Burgess	400 00	24 10
Feb'y. 29	Daniel Stonebraker	300 00	17 50
Feb'y. 29	Alex. Perry	300 00	17 50
March 13	F. W. C. Pryce	350 00	19 59
March 13	Benjamin G. Scott	500 00	27 98
March 18	John Lynde	500 00	27 50
March 19	Thomas Ray	300 00	16 44
March 19	Seth M. Smith	350 00	19 19
May 6	Eli Robinson	500 00	22 72
May 9	J. C. Brown	350 00	15 77
		$6,600 00	$383 06

Manitowoc County.

Jan'y. 25	Charles A. Reuter	500 00	32 66
Jan'y. 25	Adolphus Whitman	500 00	32 66
Feb'y. 11	Charles W Fitch	200 00	15 44
May 14	William Eatough	300 00	13 23
May 28	C. H. Walker	500 00	20 71
Dec'r. 16	H. Mulholand	300 00	81
Dec'r. 16	Henry Burner	300 00	81
Dec'r. 27	Alanson Hickox	200 00	15
		2,850 00	116 47

Marquette County.

1856.	Names.	Loan.	Interest.
Jan'y. 24	John B. Winchell	$300 00	$19 65
Feb'y. 16	John Devaney	300 00	18 25
Feb'y. 23	Charles P. Southwell	200 00	11 90
March 14	J. Volney Sweating	300 00	16 73
March 24	William Brown	200 00	10 77
March 24	John Breakliffe	200 00	10 77
March 24	Mary J. Kelsey	500 00	26 92
March 26	Mary Dawson	150 00	8 00
June 17	A Chamberlain	250 00	9 37
June 24	W. G. Phillips	500 00	18 00
Aug. 26	Henry M. Valentine	400 00	9 71
Aug. 26	A. McDougall	500 00	12 15
		$3,800 00	$172 22

Milwaukee County.

Feb'y 14	John R. Sharpstein	$500 00	$30 61
Feb'y 16	Otis B. Hopkins	500 00	30 42
Feb'y 19	Patrick Walsh	500 00	30 13
Feb'y 19	John Tobin	200 00	12 05
March 1	Hugh McGarry	500 00	29 17
March 17	Matthias Schmidt	500 00	27 52
March 26	Jno. Jennings	500 00	26 73
May 5	Herman J. Cordes	500 00	22 91
May 12	John Savage, Jr	300 00	13 34
May 12	William Hull, forfeited	310 25	13 55
May 12	William Hull do	310 25	13 55
July 24	Thos. Keough	300 00	9 10
Dec'r. 4	John Rossbeck	500 00	2 56
		$5,420 50	$261 64

Monroe County.

Feb'y. 19	Ebenezer Lathrop	$500 00	$30 13
Feb'y. 26	Rob't. E. Gillet	500 00	29 46
Feb'y. 26	Solomon D. Hollister	500 00	29 46
March 18	Edward Walwrath	300 00	16 50
		$1,800 00	$105 55

Ozaukee County.

1856	Names.	Loan.	Interest.
March 6	Wm. Groth	$500 00	$28 65
April 2	John Meyer	200 00	10 40
Dec'r. 27	Theodore Harting	400 00	38
Dec'r. 27	F. Kritzner	500 00	48
		$1,600 00	$39 91

Portage County.

Jan'y 2	B. L. Sharpstein	$500 00	$35 00
Jan'y 23	Lucinda Carpenter	300 00	19 71
Feb'y 2	John B. Du Bay	500 00	31 98
Feb'y 18	Ben. S. Jones	200 00	12 09
March 3	John Stumpf	300 00	17 36
March 13	G. M. L. Park	350 00	19 59
March 17	M. G. Pratt	300 00	16 56
July 6, '54	Kollock & Wiggington*	500 00	35 00
		$2,950 00	$187 29

Racine County.

Feb'y 26	Randall W. Smith	$500 00	$29 46
Feb'y 26	Chester Bush	500 00	29 46
Feb'y 29	Andrew J. Redburne	500 00	29 17
March 7	Charles Clement	400 00	22 92
Oct'r. 2	M. L. Ayres	500 00	8 75
		$2,400 00	$119 76

Richland County.

Jan'y 14	Newton Wells	$100 00	6 73
Jan'y 16	Jacob Troxell	500 00	33 52
March 6	Thomas Andrews	500 00	28 65
June 25	P. Mehan	440 00	15 82
Sept'r. 9	Rob't. Aiken	500 00	10 76
Dec'r. 23	Ellen McCurthy	300 00	46
		$2,340 00	$95 94

* Loaned by the old Board, and not before reported.

Rock County.

1856	Names.	Loan.	Interest.
Jan'y 16	Wm. T. Morgan	$500 00	$33 47
Feb'y 14	E. P. King	500 00	30 61
Feb'y 19	W. H. Benaway	400 00	24 10
Feb'y 20	M. V. Pasco	500 00	30 03
March 18	Wm. H. Parker	300 00	16 50
Dec'r. 31	James Neal	500 00	10
		$2,700 00	$134 81

St Croix County.

March 8	Almond D. Gray	$200 00	$11 42
March 19	Otis Hoyt	200 00	10 96
April 1	Albert Dawson	500 00	26 25
May 27	Lewis Brown	250 00	10 35
		$1,150 00	58 98

Sauk County.

Jan'y 22	Thomas Rathbun	300 00	19 77
Feb'y 16	Rob't. Holson	300 00	18 25
March 6	Samuel Ramsey	400 00	22 92
March 18	Ebenezer Martin	300 00	16 50
March 19	Theodore Royck	300 00	16 44
March 26	J. L. French	250 00	13 42
		1,850 00	107 30

Sheboygan County.

Feb'y 22	L. & S. Ziegler	300 00	17 90
March 8	Charles W. Camp	250 00	13 13
March 28	John J Hanson	500 00	26 44
June 9	Phillip Esswine	400 00	15 61
Nov. 24	Jacob Deerling	200 00	1 40
Dec. 27	Orange Munger	300 00	23
Dec. 24	A. H. Edwards	200 00	27
		2,150 00	74 98

Walworth County.

1856.	Names.	Loan.	Interest.
Feb'y 29	Charles M. Baker	500 00	29 17
June 16	H. D. L. Webster	300 00	11 31
		800 00	40 48

Washington County.

Jan'y 11	John Campbell	500 00	33 90
Feb'y 1	Stephen Mayer	500 00	32 08
Feb'y 15	Nicholas Schantz	200 00	12 21
July 15	Joseph Knapp	300 00	18 31
July 15	John Wollfit	300 00	18 31
July 15	Nicholas Miller	200 00	12 21
July 15	Ulrich Senp	300 00	18 31
July 21	Maxon, Hirsh	500 00	29 75
July 21	Christopher Eckstein	400 00	24 02
July 22	George Ippell	400 00	23 87
March 7	James Vollmar	500 00	28 65
March 8	Thomas Hayes	400 00	22 84
March 12	G. H. Kleffler	300 00	16 84
March 25	Thomas Goodman	300 00	16 15
April 12	John Keisse	500 00	23 06
June 17	Hopewell Cox	400 00	15 00
Sept. 1	August Ronge	500 00	11 67
Dec'r. 27	Timothy Connelly	500 00	38
		$7,000 00	$357 56

Waukesha County.

Jan'y. 10	J. M. Doyle	$500 00	$34 04
Jan'y. 11	Charles Howard	300 00	20 37
Jan'y. 17	William Weaver	500 00	33 37
Jan'y. 19	Thomas Weaver	500 00	33 23
Jan'y. 29	Wm. W. Caswell	500 00	32 27
Feb'y. 15	Elisha W. Edgerton	500 00	30 51
March 6	Johnson Sperroy	500 00	28 65
March 22	Francis Hinds	250 00	13 56
April 1	Wm. Garry	150 00	7 00
May 19	J. W. Wallace	300 00	13 00
June 9	Fred. A. Meyer	500 00	19 51
June 21	James Weaver	300 00	11 02
Aug'st 19	John Thompson	500 00	15 63
		$5,300 00	$292 16

Waupacca County.

1856.	Names.	Loan.	Interest.
Feb'y. 5	E. C. Sessions	$300 00	$18 96
Feb'y. 5	J. E. Thayer	300 00	18 96
March 11	Cutting Marsh	150 00	8 46
June 14	Lyman Dayton	300 00	12 00
Dec. 1	George W. Taggart	300 00	1 75
		$1,350 00	$60 13

Waushara County.

Feb'y. 26	L. L. Soule	$200 00	$11 79
March 11	Alvah Nash	300 00	16 90
April 1	Peter F. Sagar	300 00	15 75
April 30	Jacob S. Bugh	400 00	18 67
		$1,200 00	$63 11

Winnebago County.

Jan'y. 24	A. S. Reed	$500 00	$32 75
Jan'y. 25	Elbridge Smith	350 00	22 86
Jan'y. 25	Jeremiah Crowley	500 00	32 75
Feb'y. 21	Theodore Stintz	450 00	26 94
May 28	Chauncy Kellogg	500 00	20 71
Dec'r. 17	Charles A. Weisbrode	500 00	1 34
		$2,800 00	$137 35

UNIVERSITY LOANS.

Calumet County.

1856.	Names.	Loan.	Interest.
June 4	George Baldwin	200 00	8 00
October 4	Eleanor Robinson	250 00	4 21
		450 00	12 21

Chippewa County.

Dec'r. 9	C. M. Seeley	450 00	1 90

Columbia County.

July 2	Joseph Delaney	500 00	17 36

Dane County.

March 14	Wm. Mitchell	250 00	13 94
May 28	Tom. O. Edwards	300 00	12 42
July 22	Nath'l. Ells	400 00	12 28
Dec'r. 18	Chauncey Carpenter	500 00	1 25
Dec'r. 18	T. D. Coryell	200 00	50
		1650 00	40 39

Fond du Lac County.

June 4	Henry Totten	400 00	15 99

Iowa County.

May 22	Francis Mullen	200 00	8 52
Sept. 5	Robert Emory	500 00	11 15
Oct. 4	L. W. Joiner	300 00	5 05
		1000 00	24 72

Jefferson County.

1856.	Names.	Lo3n.	Interest.
Dec'r. 2	Henry Bertram	500 00	2 88
Dec'r. 2	Andrew Muckel	500 00	2 88
		1000 00	5 76

La Crosse County.

Octo'r 21	Eben B. Pike	300 00	3 96

Manitowoc County.

May 22	Ludwig George	300 00	12 77
May 22	Hubert Simon	200 00	8 52
June 4	H. Riceland	300 00	12 00
		800 00	33 29

Marquette County.

May 21	George W. Craig	200 00	8 25

Milwaukee County.

June 26	Charles A. Brandecker	400 00	14 31

Outagamie County.

Sept'r. 6	Anson Ballard	500 00	11 03

Rock County.

July 11	Alexander T. Gray	500 00	16 40

Washington County.

Sept'r. 8	Louis Cohn	500 00	10 86

Waupaca County.

Sept'r. 19	E. F. Avery	300 00	5 88

RECAPITULATION.

School Fund.

Counties.	Total amount of Loans.	Total amount of Interest.
Adams	2,975 00	153 09
Bad Ax	600 00	27 36
Brown	200 00	10 77
Calumet	650 00	32 74
Crawford	400 00	23 00
Clark	500 00	25 92
Columbia	6,200 00	336 71
Dane	14,440 00	589 40
Dodge	4,300 00	144 79
Dunn	300 00	14 63
Fond du Lac	3,450 00	80 74
Grant	2,600 00	114 50
Green	450 00	25 73
Iowa	8,500 00	360 33
Jefferson	5,640 00	301 89
Kenosha	1,000 00	57 82
La Crosse	1,050 00	45 45
La Fayette	6,600 00	383 06
Manitowoc	2,850 00	116 47
Marquette	3,800 00	172 22
Milwaukee	5,420 50	261 64
Monroe	1,800 00	105 55
Ozaukee	1,600 00	39 91
Portage	2,950 00	187 29
Racine	2,400 00	119 76
Richland	2,340 00	95 94
Rock	2,700 00	134 81
St. Croix	1,150 00	58 98
Sauk	1,850 00	107 30
Sheboygan	2,150 00	74 98
Walworth	800 00	40 48
Washington	7,000 00	357 56
Waukesha	5,300 00	292 16
Waupaca	1,350 00	60 13
Waushara	1,200 00	63 11
Winnebago	2,800 00	137 35
	109,315 50	5,153 57

University Fund.

Counties.	Total amount of Loans.	Total amount of Interest.
Calumet	450 00	12 21
Chippewa	450 00	1 90
Columbia	500 00	17 36
Dane	1,650 00	40 39
Fond du Lac	400 00	15 99
Iowa	1,000 00	24 72
Jefferson	1,000 00	5 76
La Crosse	300 00	3 96
Manitowoc	800 00	33 29
Marquette	200 00	8 25
Milwaukee	400 00	14 31
Outagamie	500 00	11 03
Rock	500 00	16 40
Washington	500 00	10 86
Waupaca	300 00	5 88
	8,950 00	222 31

Statement Showing the Number of Acres Sold at Public Sale, (as Forfeited Lands,) in Dec., 1856.

Counties.	Acres.	Am't sold for.	Am't P'l p'd.	Am't Inter'st.	Overplus p'd at Sale.
Adams	80	$ 111 51	$ 11 51	$0 27	$ 40 49
Bad Ax	200	255 56	27 00	58	55 80
Brown	240	425 96	42 96	83	1 84
Buffalo	40	52 52	5 52	10	.....
Calumet	600	1,296 03	129 03	3 07	364 80
Chippewa	640	841 12	88 32	1 92	696 76
Clarke	320	436 32	46 32	98	.....
Columbia	120	184 90	17 90	44	190 00
Crawford	40	61 40	6 40	14	.....
Dane	80	159 48	16 48	37	59 31
Dodge	94 .62	331 16	32 16	81	87 84
Dunn	1,720	2,100 80	220 80	4 85	651 76
Grant	40	76 60	7 60	17	.....
Green	80	180 92	17 92	45	49 08
Iowa	190	816 00	83 00	2 01	.....
Jackson	160	256 12	27 85	58	18 36
Jefferson	319 .50	490 61	50 61	1 18	90 59
Kewaunee	80	165 52	17 52	40	38 48
Kenosha	40	245 16	25 16	55	3 08
La Crosse	679 .11	1,198 07	123 07	3 02	384 23
La Fayette	10	202 06	20 60	14	.....
Manitowoc	160	317 40	34 40	79	75 60
Marquette	40	64 84	6 84	16	.....
Monroe	200	273 86	28 86	67	51 22
Outagamie	160	242 88	26 88	54	.....
Ozaukee	20	164 52	16 52	40	20 48
Pierce	454 .09	783 32	81 32	1 82	171 29
Polk	80	103 20	11 24	26	.....

Portage	120	160 78	16 78	39	105 22
Rock	40	216 79	21 79	52	11 21
Richland	120	297 38	31 37	46	.....
St. Croix	1,439 .50	2,201 62	246 12	4 79	190 27
Sauk	40	54 55	6 55	12	.....
Shawanaw	240	344 04	41 04	75	28 66
Sheboygan	10	163 47	16 47	47	.....
Trempeleau	120	162 04	19 04	32	.....
Waukesha	193 .51	449 35	47 35	94	10 00
Waupacca	448 .75	1,540 84	157 04	3 53	100 76
Waushara	280	559 04	63 04	1 39	152 76
Winnebago	80	190 09	20 09	43	.....
	$10,019 .08	$18,177 83	$1,910 47	$41 61	$3,649 89

Statement Showing the Total Number of Acres Sold to Pre-Emptors at the Appraised Value; also the Number Sold at Public Auction.

Counties.	Pre-Empted Lands.					16th Section.	Lands not Pre-Empted.					
	No. acres sold to pre-emptors.	Am't sold For.	Princip'l Paid.	Int'r'st paid to 1857	Balance Due.	No. Acres sold at Auction.	Apprais'd Value.	Amount Sold For.	Princip'l Paid.	Int'r'st Paid.	Balance Due.	Overplus
St. Croix	480	$1,002 00	$102 00	$7 56	$900 00	2,080	$4,784 00	$8,624 00	$879 00	$69 11	$7,745 00	4,842 00
Chippewa	5,168 .40	6,799 12	760 12	46 84	6,039 00	1,816 .76	9,144 88	2,737 01	294 01	18 95	2,443 00	391 25
Buffalo	1,000	1,297 72	139 72	8 05	1,158 00	3,480	5,795 68	7,019 35	739 35	43 11	6,280 00	2,521 39
500,000 *Acre Tract.*												
Buffalo	3,346 58	4,418 70	246 90	28 86	4,171 80	2,175 .93	2,851 49	2,963 43	301 99	18 38	2,661 44	111 94
Trempeleau	3,824 53	5,055 20	11 72	33 37	5,043 48	1,880	2,484 42	3,706 02	393 02	21 96	3,313 00	1,221 60
University Land.												
Dunn	2,211 .17	7,504 35	771 35	65 41	6,733 00	1,560	5,580 45	5,292 25	574 25	48 67	5,018 00	11 80
Pierce	16,115 .49	51,393 37	5,779 37	367 05	45,614 00	3,755 .81	12,770 13	13,740 50	1,414 50	100 47	12,326 00	970 37
St. Croix	240	729 30	75 30	5 46	654 00	40	121 55	200 00	20 00	1 50	180 00	78 45
Trempeleau*	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	240 .20	729 96	741 41	76 41	4 39	665 00	11 45
Chippewa	7,722 .22	26,676 65	2,748 65	186 31	23,928 00	7,211 .97	22,285 56	22,454 30	2,322 40	157 83	20,132 00	167 84

* None Pre-Empted.

Sale of Forfeited Mortgages in December, A. D., 1856.

	Counties.	Am't Sold For.
Thomas Reynolds	Columbia	$562 00
James D. Rosche	Dodge	450 00
Edward McMahon	do	450 00
Henry Totten	Milwaukee	632 00
Alex. P. McCluig	Racine	289 73
George W. Russel	Rock	338 00
Henry DuPuy	do	282 00
S. M. Field	do	506 00
Edward McMahon	Washington	170 00
Enoch Totten	Winnebago	143 00
		$3,822 85

Statement Showing Total Number of Acres Sold at Private and Public Sale, at Madison.

Counties.	No. acres sold 1856.	App'd value.	Sold For.	Princ'l Paid.	Interest Paid.	Balance Due.	Overplus.
Adams	640	$ 808 80	$ 808 80	$ 88 80	$ 40 42	$ 720 00	.....
Buffalo	1,843 .1	2,379 06	2,379 06	260 06	130 72	2,119 00	.....
Chippewa	2,282	2,945 97	2,945 97	319 97	160 98	2,626 00	.....
Clarke	1,360	1,858 00	1,858 00	783 00	66 99	1,075 00	.....
Columbia	2,032 .22	417 78	417 78	45 78	15 53	372 00	.....
Door	3,940 .70	5,807 05	5,807 05	645 05	313 94	5,162 00	.....
Dunn	1,537 04	1,995 84	1,995 84	220 84	106 45	1,775 00	.....
Dodge	78 .89	371 61	371 61	24 10	.....	347 51	.....
Fond du Lac	40	51 00	54 00	6 00	2 48	45 00	.....
Jackson	6,407 47	8,528 27	8,528 27	1,244 27	444 50	7,284 00	.....
Kewaunee	320	414 64	414 64	46 64	17 76	368 00	.....
Marquette	78 .40	140 44	140 44	15 44	6 64	125 00	.....
Monroe	120	153 75	153 75	15 75	3 69	138 00	.....
Outagamie	237 .12	302 80	302 80	34 80	9 25	268 00	.....
Ozaukee, Village Lots in Ulao	.....	1,353 20	1,353 20	167 20	58 46	1,186 00	.....
Pierce	32 .22	43 51	43 51	451 00	261 00	39 00	.....
Polk	3,265	4,215 60	4,215 60	450 60	184 40	3,757 00	.....
Wood	6,840	11,850 77	13,583 41	3,316 41	353 54	9,967 00	$1,732 64
Portage	4,680	6,010 35	6,395 35	686 35	266 73	5,709 00	385 00
St. Croix	160	206 48	206 48	22 48	992 00	185 00	.....
Trempeleau	4,880	6,137 82	6,137 82	647 82	346 76	5,490 00	.....
Waupacca	40	58 39	58 39	6 39	2 62	52 00	.....
Douglas	522 .80	681 66	681 66	681 66	.....	.....	.....
Marquette	118 .75	449 92	449 92	46 92	10 90	403 00	.....
Rock, Village Lots	.....	70 71	70 71	8 71	3 02	62 00	.....
Manitowoc	40	121 46	121 46	12 46	4 91	109 00	.....

SWAMP LANDS.

In relation to the swamp and overflowed lands granted to this State, by the act of Congress, of September 28th, A. D. 1850, we consider ourselves in the correct discharge of our duty, in laying before the Legislature, in a respectful manner, such suggestions as occur to us with regard to the future disposal of such lands; we also respectfully trust that those suggestions and the views which we entertain upon this subject so highly important to the interests of the School Fund, and no less so to those of the people of our State, may meet with all due consideration at the hands of the Legislature.

The 10th section of the act of the Legislature of this State, entitled "An Act to provide for the protection of the Swamp and Overflowed Lands in this State, and to grant pre-emption rights thereon," approved April 2d, 1855, provides that "Any person who now occupies, or who may hereafter occupy, before the day that may be appointed, pursuant to law, for the sale of said Swamp or Overflowed Lands, either by a residence thereon, or having improvements thereon, of the value of ten dollars per forty acres, and used for agricultural purposes, shall have the right to purchase the same at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, by proving his or her improvement of such lands, in the manner hereinafter provided: *Provided*, That no one person shall have the right to pre-empt and purchase more than one hundred and sixty acres of such lands, to be by him or her settled, in legal subdivisions according to the government survey, and in a compact body." Other provisions of the same act specially defined and protected the rights of the pre-emptor, and gave valuable privileges to the actual settler on the Swamp Lands; in fact it may be said that the settlers were really invited to locate and settle these lands, with the certainty of a confirmation by

the State of their pre-emption title to the same, at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre.

The act of the Legislature entitled "An Act to provide for the disposal and sale of the Swamp and Overflowed Lands," approved Oct. 11, 1856, possesses provisions very different from those of the former recited act, and it is very questionable whether such provisions will produce the beneficial effects which we must presume was intended by them.

By section 1st, it is provided that, "All the lands granted to this State by an act of Congress entitled 'An Act to enable the State of Arkansas and other States to reclaim the Swamp and Overflowed Lands within their limits,' approved September 28th, 1850, shall be sold by the Attorney General, Secretary of State, and State Treasurer, whenever the Governor shall deem it expedient so to do. Such sale shall be conducted in the manner and under the restrictions provided for the sale of the school and university lands in chapter twenty-four of the Revised Statutes, so far as said provisions may be applicable and not inconsistent with the provisions of this act."

The second section provides for securing to pre-emptors all their rights to purchase Swamp Lands, &c., which they had acquired under the provisions of the act of April 2d, 1855, and defines the manner of proving up their pre-emption claims. The whole purchase money of one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre is directed to be paid at least ten days prior to the time appointed for the sale of the Swamp and Overflowed Lands in the county were such pre-empted lands lie. A neglect to comply with the provisions of this act, is declared to be a waiver, surrender and forfeiture of all pre-emption rights to such lands.

The 3rd section enacts that, "After the taking effect of this act, no pre-emption shall be made to any of said Swamp or Overflowed Lands."

By the 6th section it is provided "That the minimum price of said Swamp and Overflowed Lands shall be five dollars per acre, except such as shall be purchased in virtue of pre-emption right. At

least one-half of the purchase money of said lands described or designated in the plats as timbered lands, shall be paid at the time of the sale thereof, and of all other in the ratio as provided in chapter twenty-four of the Revised Statutes, for the sale of School and University Lands, other than the five hundred thousand acres."

The 10th section repeals all laws inconsistent with, or repugnant to the provisions of this act.

The 11th section provides that. "The Swamp and Overflowed Lands shall be sold in limited quantities, for actual settlement, or for the use of an adjoining farm, to each purchaser, not more than three hundred and twenty acres each."

In examining the provisions of these two acts, it may be apparent that the act of the 2d of April, 1855, invited a settlement of the swamp lands by our citizens, and the act of October 11th, 1856, operates as a prohibition of such settlement. Such could not, in our estimation, have been the deliberate intention of the Legislature; we consider that their intention was to bring these lands into market at as early a period as practicable, because it is unquestionably true, that until they should be sold, neither the Counties, the School Fund, nor the State can derive any benefit from the donation made by Congress of these lands; it may therefore be well concluded, that as the pre-emption law is repealed, and the minimum price of the lands is fixed at five dollars per acre, one half of which is to be paid in cash for all the timbered lands, the act of October 11th, 1856, must greatly retard any sale, if not wholly prevent the same, except in such cases only where pre-emption rights have been previously secured.

In such a state of matters, where a settler acquires no future rights, by his actual occupancy of these lands, and where the minimum price of the same so greatly exceeds the price of the public School and University Funds, no other result can be expected than lands of the United States, and of the other lands devoted to the that of waste and destruction being speedily committed on the Swamp Lands; the difficulty of acquiring a title to the lands by the industrious citizen, and those especially whose pecuniary means

are limited, must operate to the great deterioration in value of all the timbered lands, and the consequent loss to the School Fund; no caution can guard against such results, except the encouragement of a speedy sale of these lands, on such terms as our industrious population can afford to embrace.

The history of the land sales during the present year fully justifies us in the conclusion, that at a much reduced minimum price from the present one, the Swamp Lands when offered at public sale, will always invite and command a fair competition among purchasers, and with such competition, sales, at the true value of these lands may readily be effected.

In connection with the subject of the future sale of the Swamp Lands, it is respectfully suggested, that such sales might be, with much advantage to all purchasers, conducted at the seat of government; the pre-emptor will, in all cases, be obliged to come to Madison, where the public office of the Commissioners is kept, in order to perfect his title, and to him there will result no great inconvenience; to other purchasers, equal facilities in buying these lands will be afforded, at the seat of government, as in the respective counties in which the lands lie; and the presence of a greater number of such purchasers will more effectually secure a fair competition in the bids for the lands, and consequently increase the amount of the proceeds of the sales.

Should the Legislature be of opinion that a reduction of the present minimum price of the Swamp Lands be made, the Commissioners respectfully suggest that, having no means of ascertaining from the plats, whether the lands are timbered or not, the distinction in payment for such lands, as now provided by law, should not exist. We are clearly of opinion, that by offering the lands at a public sale, where a fair and just competition may be reasonably expected, among the purchasers, all the tracts will sell for what they are really worth, whether timbered or not.

The Commissioners respectfully call the attention of the Legislature to the fact that there are many thousands of acres of Swamp Lands which have not yet been reported as such by the District Unit-

ed States Surveyors, but really are so; under such circumstances, we suggest that some provision be made by law for the appointment of suitable persons to ascertain the locality of such lands, in order, that a proper report being made thereon, an application and request may be made to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, or other office or department having charge of the matter, to convey the same to the State, as being a portion of and properly belonging to the grant contemplated by the act of Congress, approved September 28th, 1850.

In connection with this subject, we also call the attention of the Legislature to the propriety of making provision for the speedy survey of the islands in the River Mississippi and its tributaries, which belong to this State, and properly form a part of the Swamp Land Grant. Many of the islands in the Mississippi are covered with valuable timber, and in the absence of sufficient protection by the State, or by legal purchaser of the same, under sales made by the State, they are daily and hourly the subject of an extensive depredation, not only by citizens of Wisconsin, but greatly so by the inhabitants of Minnesota Territory, and transient persons, whose cupidity is excited to commit these depredations by the high price of wood attending steamboat navigation.

The insecure condition of the records and papers of the School Land Office requires an immediate and effectual protection by law. Let it be remarked that there are now in that office between five and six hundred folio volumes of official books, containing the evidences of locality, value and sale, together with the duplicate certificates of title to the School and University Lands of our State; all papers in relation to the proofs of pre-emption titles are here deposited. A new set of books pertaining exclusively to the Swamp Lands, are now in course of being opened, for all the counties wherein the lands lie; in fact, the high importance of the due preservation of such public records, in which our citizens have so deep an interest must be self-evident; we suggest, therefore, the propriety of legislative action on this subject, so that means may be immediately taken for the erection of fire proof offices for the

safe keeping of the School Land Records; and we also take leave to represent to the Legislature, the great inconvenience of the present School Land Office, both as respects its limited size and the duties of the several clerks who are necessarily employed therein.

With full reliance that the Legislature will, at an early day, take into their deliberate consideration the several subjects which we thus have had the honor of laying before them, and fully believing that they well merit such attention, we most respectfully submit this, our Annual Report.

D. W. JONES,
CHARLES KUEHN,
WM. R. SMITH.